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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/668,291	09/25/2000	Jean-Paul Debalme	1247-0849-6VF	1279
22850	7590	10/05/2005	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			LEE, EDMUND H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1732	
DATE MAILED: 10/05/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/668,291

Applicant(s)

DEBALME ET AL.

Examiner

EDMUND H. LEE

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1732

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 June 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 20-23, 25-27 and 29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 20-23, 25-27 and 29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 6/29/05 has been entered.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3, 620-22, 25-27 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Loubinoux et al (USPN 6294036) in view of Angell, Jr et al (USPN 5037284) and Kuts (USPN 2954815) as set forth in the previous Office action mailed 12/29/04 and further in view of Cogswell et al (USPN 4541884). The combined teaches of Loubinoux et al, Angell, Jr et al, and Kuts as set forth in the previous Office action mailed 12/29/04 are incorporated hereinafter. Loubinoux et al, however, do not teach using heated rollers that are driven at a lower speed of rotation than a speed at which the sheet is traveling. Cogswell et al teach a method of making a composite tape (abstract); and using a roller that is rotated up to the speed of the fiber sheet (col 4, Ins 36-40)—as a note, this teaching implies that the speed of the roller can be rotated at a

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speed of less than the fiber speed but not greater than the fiber speed. Loubinoux et al and Cogswell et al are combinable because they are analogous with respect to forming a composite tape. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to rotate the heated rollers of Loubinoux et al at a lower speed of rotation than the speed of the sheet as taught by Cogswell et al in order to impart a self-cleaning action.

4. Claims 4 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Loubinoux et al (USPN 6294036) in view of Angell, Jr et al (USPN 5037284), Kuts (USPN 2954815) and Katsukura et al (USPN 6155306) as set forth in the previous Office action mailed 12/29/04 and further in view of Cogswell et al (USPN 4541884). The combined teaches of Loubinoux et al, Angell, Jr et al, Kuts, and Katsukura as set forth in the previous Office action mailed 12/29/04 are incorporated hereinafter. Loubinoux et al, however, do not teach using heated rollers that are driven at a lower speed of rotation than a speed at which the sheet is traveling. Cogswell et al teach a method of making a composite tape (abstract); and using a roller that is rotated up to the speed of the fiber sheet (col 4, lns 36-40)—as a note, this teaching implies that the speed of the roller can be rotated at a speed of less than the fiber speed but not greater than the fiber speed. Loubinoux et al and Cogswell et al are combinable because they are analogous with respect to forming a composite tape. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to rotate the heated rollers of Loubinoux et al at a lower speed of rotation than the speed of the sheet as taught by Cogswell et al in order to impart a self-cleaning action.

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5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4,6,20-23, 25-27 and 29 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to EDMUND H. LEE whose telephone number is 571.272.1204. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY-THURSDAY FROM 9AM-4PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Colaianni can be reached on 571.272.1196. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

EHL

EDMUND H. LEE  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1732

  
10/3/05